

The Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

CLAIMS:

Claims 1 - 9. (Cancelled)

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) In an animal feed composition comprising crude protein and an antibiotic supplement, the improvement comprising replacing all or a portion of said antibiotic supplement with an anti-bacterial amount of an ~~anti-bacterial~~ anti-microbial fatty acid component, wherein the ~~anti-bacterial~~ anti-microbial fatty acid component is a high lauric acid natural oil, or a derivative thereof having a high lauric acid content.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein the high lauric acid oil is coconut oil, palm kernel oil, a high lauric acid rapeseed oil, or a high lauric acid soy oil.

Claim 12. (Original) An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein lauric acid in the high lauric acid oil, or derivative thereof, comprises 0.5% to 10% of the animal feed.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein the animal feed composition is essentially free of antibiotic supplements.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) An animal feed composition according to claim 10, ~~further comprising at least one antibiotic~~, wherein the amount of said antibiotic supplement in the animal feed comprises less than 50% of an optimal antibiotic supplement.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) An animal feed composition according to claim 10, which contains at least one antibiotic, wherein the amount of antibiotic in the animal feed comprises less than 50% of a maximal antibiotic supplement.

Claim 16. (Previously Presented) An animal feed composition according to claim 10, which contains at least one antibiotic, wherein the amount of antibiotic in the animal feed comprises less than 50% of an optimal antibiotic supplement for controlling *Salmonella typhimurium*.

Claim 17. (Previously Presented) An animal feed composition according to claim 10, which contains at least one antibiotic, wherein the amount of antibiotic in the animal feed comprises less than 50% of an allowable antibiotic supplement for controlling *Salmonella typhimurium*.

Claim 18. (Original) An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein the feed composition is feed for chickens, turkeys, lambs or veal calves produced for human consumption.

Claims 19 - 24. (Cancelled)

Claim 25. (Currently Amended) An animal feed composition according to claim 14, wherein the combined amount of ~~at least one said anti-biotic supplement and at least one anti-bacterial~~ said anti-microbial fatty acid component in the animal feed is sufficient to promote the health of the animal as compared to the feed composition without the added antibiotic and without the added ~~anti-bacterial~~ anti-microbial fatty acid component.

Claim 26. (Currently Amended) An animal feed composition according to claim 14, wherein the combined amount of ~~at least one said~~ anti-biotic and ~~at least one anti bacterial said~~ anti-microbial fatty acid component in the animal feed is sufficient to enhance the growth of the animal as compared to the feed composition without the added antibiotic and without the added ~~anti bacterial anti-microbial~~ fatty acid component.

Claims 27 - 37. (Cancelled)

Claim 38. (Previously Presented) An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein lauric acid in the high lauric acid oil or derivative thereof, comprises 2% to 10% of the animal feed.

Claims 39 - 44. (Cancelled)

Claim 45. (Currently Amended) An animal feed composition according to claim 10, wherein the amount of said ~~anti bacterial anti-microbial~~ fatty acid component falls within the range of 2% to 7% by weight of said animal feed composition.

Claims 46 - 50. (Cancelled)

Claim 51. (Previously Presented) An animal feed composition as in claim 26, wherein the antibiotic is narasin/nicarbazin, chlortetracycline with salinomycin, monensin, or Zn Bacitracin.